



Does the Worker Protection Standard apply to you?

☼ The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) is a regulation issued by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency covering pesticides that are used for the production of agricultural plants on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses.

☼ If you employ workers or pesticide handlers, the WPS requires you to provide to your employees information, protection, and mitigation concerning exposure to pesticides.

☼ You must comply with the Worker Protection Standard if you use pesticides with labeling that refers to the WPS under the heading "Agricultural Use Requirements".

☼ A **Worker** is any person who is employed for any type of compensation and who is performing activities related to the production of agricultural plants on an agricultural establishment.

☼ A **Handler** is anyone employed by an agricultural establishment who uses pesticides in the production of agricultural plants including those mixing and loading pesticides, flaggers, those handling or cleaning contaminated application equipment, those performing soil incorporation, and those handling open containers of pesticides.

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food
Division of Pesticide Control
PO Box 2042
Concord, NH 03302-2042

WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

Special application restrictions in nurseries



This brochure will assist in compliance with the special provisions for nurseries, but does not cover the complete scope of the Worker Protection Standard requirements.

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture,
Markets & Food
Division of Pesticide Control
PO Box 2042
Concord, NH 03302-2042

Tel: 603-271-3550
Fax: 603-271-1109

Special Application Restrictions in Nurseries:

COLUMN A When a Pesticide is Being Applied:	COLUMN B Workers and Other Persons Are Prohibited In:
1. (a) Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Aerially, or ■ In an upward direction, or ■ Using a spray pressure greater than 150 pounds per square inch. OR (b) Applied as a : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Fumigant, or ■ Smoke, or ■ Mist, or ■ Fog, or ■ Aerosol. 	Pesticide-treated area plus 100 feet in all directions on the nursery
2. (a) Applied downward using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A height of greater than 12 inches from the planting medium; or ■ A fine spray; or ■ A spray pressure greater than 40 pounds per square inch and less than 150 pounds per square inch. OR (b) Under circumstances other than (1) (a) or (1) (b) or (2) above for which the pesticide labeling requires the applicator to wear a respirator.	Pesticide-treated area plus 25 feet in all directions on the nursery
3. In any other manner.	Pesticide-treated area

Application Restrictions in Nurseries:

Use this table to determine if any persons other than a handler can be in the areas specified in column B, during any application described in column A.



Notice of Pesticide Applications:

☀ All pesticide applications shall be posted. In nurseries, the signs shall be posted so they are visible from all usual points of worker entry to the treated area.

☀ If the pesticide label requires both posting of the treated area and oral notification, the agricultural employer must provide to workers the oral warning consisting of location and description of treated area, the time which entry is restricted, and instructions not to enter this area until the REI expires.

Nursery

Is any operation engaged in the outdoor production of any agricultural plant to produce cut flowers and ferns or plants that will be used in their entirety in another location. Such plants include, but are not limited to, flowering and foliage plants or trees; tree seedlings; live Christmas trees; vegetable, fruit, and ornamental transplants; and turf grass produced for sod.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NURSERY OWNERS:

Monitoring Handlers

At least once every 2 hours, someone must check on-by sight or voice communication any applicator who is handling a pesticide that has a skull and crossbones label on it.

Pesticide Safety Training

Complete record keeping of worker training is the only **proof** your workers were trained in accordance with the worker protection standard. There is a five day grace period to train workers. Workers and handlers must be trained every five years.

Decontamination Sites

The worker's and applicator's employer is responsible for providing to them a site for washing off pesticide residues while they are doing the application or working in a pesticide treated area. The supplies required are: **water, soap, single-use towels**. Handler decontamination sites must also have a **clean change of clothes**, and enough **water for washing the entire body** in case of an emergency.

Information at a Central Location

Certain information must be displayed in a central location on the nursery when workers or handlers are on site and when a pesticide is about to or has been recently applied and must remain up until 30 days after the restricted-entry interval expires. The information that must be displayed is: **Pesticide application list, emergency information, and a pesticide safety poster.**

For a complete copy of the Worker Protection Standard contact your local county cooperative extension or the Standard is available on the internet at:
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/workers/PART170.htm>